JOHNSON'S €NiNE WORTHIES OF LONDON.'

The Vine Worthies of London explaining the honourable exercise of arms, the virtues of the vahant$_y$ and the memorable attempts of magnanimous minds, pleasant for gentlemen, not unseemly for magistrates, and most profitable for prentices compiled by Richard Johnson, being dedicated to Sir William Webb, Knight, Lord Mayor of the City of London Herein Fame and Clio, meeting together, cause the ancient worthies of the city to rise from the ground and declare their own fortunes in verse First Sir William Wallworth, fishmonger, who slew Wat Tyler , Sir Henry Pntchard, vintner , Sir William Sevenoake, grocer , Sir William White, merchant tailor , Sir John Bonham, mercer , Sir Christopher Croker, vintner , Sir John Hawkwood, merchant tailor , Sir Hugh Caverley, silk weaver , and Sir Henry Maleveret, grocer, surnamed Henry of Cornhill, which last having fought in the Holy Land, to rescue the oppressed Jews, was by envious tongues defamed, and maketh complaint

The good that I had done was clean forgot,
Ingratitude prevailed against my life,
And nothing then but exile was my lot,
Or else abide the stroke of fatal knife,
For so the ruler of the Jews concluded,
His Grace by false reports was much deluded.

There was no striving in a foreign soil,
I took it patient, though 'twere causeless done,
And to avoid the stain of such a foil,
That slanderous tongues had wickedly begun,
Where, to the holy well of Jacob's name,
I found a cave to shroud me from their blame.

And though my body were within their power,
Yet was my mind untouched by their hate,
The valiant faint not, though that Fortune lower,
Nor are they fearful at controlling fate,
For in that water none can quench their thirst,

Except he meant to combat with me first

By that occasion for my pleasure sake,
I gave both knights and princes heavy strokes